**We’re going to start a Revolution… and we’re French**

At present you are all members of the same, downtrodden class: the Third Estate. Amongst your numbers are all sorts of people, though. Some are artisans, some are small business owners, some might even be fairly wealthy, but most are peasants.

Here is the situation:

Life for you and your family has become intolerable. The cost of bread (the staple of your diet) is prohibitively expensive. For some of your members the cost is nearly all of their monthly income. (See information below for specifics.) Moreover, the taxes being paid by you and other members of your Estate are incredibly high. Given the cost of bread and taxes it is nearly impossible to survive. Quite often people have been forced to eat bark, grass, and rats just to feed themselves.

Socially, there are few if any opportunities for advancement up the ranks of society. There are some Nobles of the Robe (people who purchased their social position), but they are never seen as anything as powerful and as influential as Nobles of the Sword (Nobles by birth from generations before). Moreover, you are fed up with the attitude and lack of concern the nobles have for you and your lot in life. You, in short, do not enjoy the same rights as those in the First and Second Estates.

You also cannot understand why the church, despite its rhetoric, still does little for the poor. They own so much land, but do little to aid in reducing physical suffering of their congregations. Moreover, you also pay a tax to the church, a tithe.

You are aware of the debt problems facing France and her government, but you can see that there are many problems ahead for you and your family should things not be resolved regarding the tax and the price of bread. Life has gotten intolerable economically, politically and socially. You must take action.

**Here’s what you must do:**

**Part I**

1. **Organize people to protest, or to fight for change.**
2. **You might need to arm yourselves. Where can these be found? (Do a little research here).**
3. **Take action.**

**Part II**

1. **You have achieved power to make changes.**
2. **What changes will you make?**
3. **You must create a constitution that will express these changes that will include at least 5 articles.**

**Remember you do not want to return back to the way things were ever again.**

Your group must complete the first stage and create a short Power Point presentation displaying your responses. DO THE RESEARCH. Within forty minutes.

The second stage must be completed in the same manner. Your constitutions must be completed and on a Power Point for display within the first 15 minutes of the second class.

Good Luck